OBSERVANCE OF THE DAY. BERVICES IN THE CHURCHES-EXERCISES IN BE-NEVOLENT INSTITUTIONS-DINNERS AND GIFTS

OF CLOTHING FOR THE POOR. Happiness will reach many to-day to whom it is not a frequent visitor. The inmates of all the charitable institutions of the city will be reminded that kind hearts care for them and willing hands labor to extend to them something of the influence of the season. In the city institutions, both for the criminal and unfortunate, provision has been made for Christmas cheer. Many of the churches are decorated with Christmas tokens, and the music and sermons will be especially adapted to the event the day commemorates.

SUSPENSION OF BUSINESS.

There will be a general suspension of busi ness in the city to-day. All the down-town Exchanges the Custom House, the Post Office through most of the day, stores, shops and offices will be closed, and the day will be devoted to rest, recreation and amusement. The cold weather has brought the long-wished-for ice to the emanespated school-boy, and the ponds in the vicinity of New-York will doubtless be well patronized. The members of the Stock Exchange yesterday indulged in their usual Christmas frohe-the day being opened by blowing fish-horns, foot-ball, hat-tossing and other sports. A favorite amusement was the introduction of a strong rope, and an equal number of brokers at each end pulling for the supremacy. The rope was wound about one of the pillars of the Exchange. Suddenly, at one end, the rope was loosened, and twenty or thirty brokers were soon sprawing on the floor. The gallery was filled with ladies, who appeared to enjoy the sport.

SERVICES IN THE CHURCHES.

In most of the Episcopal and Roman Catholic churches in the city extensive preparations have been made to render the musical services to-day peculiarly interesting. At Trinity Church the march from Raff's Leonora Symphony will be played, and numerous selections will be sung by the choir. The altar and chancel bave been very tastefully adorned with plants and evergreens, and between the windows hemlock trees bave been placed. Miss Ida W. Hubbell, Miss Anna Drasdil, George Simpson and Adolph Sohst, aided by two choirs, will furnish the music at Grace Church. The pillars and chancel of the church have been hand-

somely decorated with evergreens, helly and myrtles.

Two silken banners will stand in the chancel of St Thomas's Church at the service to-day. The interior has been elaborately trimmed with pines and ever greens. A quartet and chorus will render the music. The Church of the Holy Trinity has been beautifully decorated, spirals of evergreen being wound around the pillars, and the front of the gallery being covered with stars and triangles of green. Hande 's Pastoral Symphony and "Oh Thou that Tellest" will be performed At St. Stephen's, selections by Mozart and Handel will be sung. The chimes of St. Ann's Church will ring at 8 a. m. and at the morning service Adam's " Christma Bong" and a number of choice anthems will be rendered. A donbie quartet will have charge of the music at solemn high mass at 10:30, and at vespers in the after

Carols, anthems and hymns will be sung at the morn ing service in All Saints' Church. A choir of boys and men will furnish an elaborate musical service at the Church of the Heavenly Rest, which has been tastefully decorated with evergreeus, laurel and ferns. The Church of the Ascension has been trimmed, and the will render a number of selections at St. Mark's The music at Calvary Church is by Handel, Mozart, Baroby and Moseuthal, and will be sung by a choir of twenty four and a quartet. A Schubert mass will be given at St. Ignatius's Church. At St. Bartholomew's Church, Mrs. Imogene Brown, Mrs. Anna B. Hills, Legett and Franz Remmeriz, assisted

W. S. Leggett and Franz Remmertz, assisted by a double quartet and a large chorns, will sing the "luflammatus," Faure's "Pa'm Branches," a fusue by Spour, and other selections. Flowers and evergreens are used profusely about the church. At the Church of the Holy Spirit a varied programme of inusic will be sung, and a sermon by the rector will follow.

Mozart's "Messe Solemeile" and selections from his Mass in F will be sung at St. Patrick's "athedral by a double quartet and chorus of lifty voices. At St. Francis Xavier's Church a rich mosseal programme has been prepared. High mass will oegin at 11:30 with a grand march by an orchestra and organ. A mass by L. Prevost will be sung for the first time by a double quartet and chorus, and the overture to "Martha" with follow. At vespers at 5 p. m., Saim-Sach's cratorio of "Nosi," several compositions by the organist, Dr. William Berge, Rossin's "Tautum Ergo" and other pieces will be sung. A mass by Mozart, and a Critstmas by in a granged for duet, trio, quartet and chorus, by Novello, will be performed at St. Teress's Church.

The choir at St. Stephon's (Roman Catholic) will con-

The choir at St. Stephen's (Roman Catholic) will conplet of a double quartet and chorus and the accompaniment will be furnished by a full orchestra and organ.
Signor Frapolli will sing Adam's "Canrique de Noël,"
and Mile. Parodi will sing an Ave Maria
at St. Ceclin's Canroh. Extensive preparations for the
music have also been unde at the Churenes of St. Auntuctation, St. Paul's (Methodist), and St. John the Baptist.

A somewhat unions entertainment. The choir at St. Stephen's (Roman Catholic) will con-

A somewhat unique entertainment is to be given at Bt. Bernard's Hall this evening, by the children of St. Bernar, 's Sunday-school. It will be repeated every even og until January 6, omitting New Year's Eve. It consists of a Carlstmas cantata, and has been prepared

CHRISTMAS CHEER FOR THE POOR. The charitable and benevolent institutions

of New-York and vicinity, both public and private, are not forgettul of the Christmas season, and an effort is made each year at this time to brighten the hearts and homes of the objects of their benefactions. The Calldren's Aid Society will give a good Christmas dinner to-day to hearly 1,500 children in the six lodging-bouses established by them. At the Newsboys' Lodg ing-House, at Duane and New-Chambers-sts., each bey wee provided last night with two shirts and pair of socks, and a warm comforter. To-day a dinner for 500 will be given, not only to the boys of the house, but to al who come. It has been provided by Win. M. Fliess, of No. 46 Broadway, who has made a similar present each Christmas for eight years. Before the dinner there will be exercises by the boys in the lecture-room, consisting of recitations, songs, etc. Both dining-room and lecture-room will be decorated with flags. evergreens, mottoes, etc. At the lodging-house for girls, No. 27 St. Mark's-place, din-

ner will be provided for 100; at the Eleventh Ward Lodging-House, No. 709 East Eleventh-st., for 200; at the Sixteenth Ward Lodging-House, No. 211 West Eigh teenth-st. for 200; at the Thirteenth Ward Lodging-House, No 327 Rivington-st., for 250, and at the Lodg-ing-House at No. 314 East Thirty-fifth-st., for 200. At each of these places there will be appropriate exercises before the inmates partake of their Caristmas teast The children of the Five Points House of Industry wil entertained by exercises in the chapel at 2 p. m., and

at 4 will ait down to a beautiful dinner which will be provided for about 400. The chapel will be decorated with evergreens, but there will be no Christmas tree except for the hospital children. At the Five Points Mison, there will be exercises in the chapel at 10 a. m., at the close of which presents will be distributed. The children were provided yesterday with the material for their dinners to-day, which they will cat at their homes.

The distribution of provisions to poor families con-nected with old Trinity Church took place in the vestibule about noon yesterday. Women and children representing ninety families flocked around the Rev. Dr. H. B. Hitchings, the assistant rector, and their baskets were filled with all the requisites for ample Christmas

At St. Vincent's Home, the Mission of the Immaculate At 8t. Vincent's Home, the Mission of the immacental Virgin for the protection of homeless and destitute children, Nos. 53 to 55 Warren st., there will be religious exercises in the morning, at the close of which more than 200 auts of clotaing will be distributed to poor children, At 10 a. m. a concert will be given by the children, and at most 375 children will partake of a bountiful dinner. Supper will be served at 7 p. m.

At the Howard Mission and Home for Little Wanderers, No. 10 Now Rowsey it is expected that pearly 1,000

At the Howard Mission and Home for Little Wanderers, do New Rowery, it is expected that nearly 1,000 persons will receive their Christmas dinners, and many will be presented with twarm garments, the gifts of friends of this mission. Five bundred children will receive their Chris'mas dinner at St. Barnabas Mission, No. 304 Mulberry-st., at 2 p. m. There will be religious services at 10:30.

The ladles of the Widows' and Orphans' Benevolent

No. 304 Mulberry st., at 2 p. m. There will be religious services at 10:30.

The ladies of the Widows' and Orphans' Benevolent Association and Orphans' Home, No. 5 Winthrop-place, extend an invitation to the widows and orphans whom they have aided, and to any respectable needly widows, to their dimer to-day, from 2 to 6 p. m. The 81-ters of the Good Shephers, at Ninetichest, and East River; the Sisters of St. Dominic, at No. 109 East Twenty-eighthett, and the House of the Holy Family, in Second-ave, near Eighth-st., will give those unier their care some substantial reason for remembering the day with pleasure.

ure.

The 673 immstes of Ward's Island Hospitals and Asylums will be supplied with a bountiful dinner to-day by the Commissioners of Emigration. Superintendent Jackson sent over 1,000 pounds of poultry and a large amount of infacement to the island yesterday to be served up for Christmas. The thirty-three boys will each receive a present of a suit of clothes, and about the same number of girls will be given each a new dress by the Commissioners.

same number of girls will be given each a new dress by the Commissioners.

The Commissioners of Charities and Correction have provided amply for giving the prisoners and paupers under their charge an abundant Christmas dinner. They have purchased 0,500 pounds of turkey and 7,500 pounds of thicken, together with other substantial viands which they have distributed among the prisona, hospitals and asylums under their charge in the city and on the islands, in proportion to the number of inmates in cach. Many delicacies will be added by benevotent ladies. Mrs. A. H. Gibbons will visit Rangall'a Island and distribute condies and toys among the children. Dinner will be actived at all the institutions about noon. The prisoners in the Tombs, Jefferson Market, Essex Market, and Yorkville Police Court prisoners are included among those to be provided with

THE REV. DR. HALL'S TALK TO CHILDREN. CHRISTMAS EXERCISES AT THE MADISON AVENUE REFORMED CHURCH.

The Christmas exercises of the Sabbathchool of the Madison Avenue Reformed Church, were held last evening. The church was tastefully decorated with evergreens, which were hung in festoons about the altar and organ, and on each side of the platform was a Christmas tree gally illuminated with colored lights and with strings of bonbons. The body of the church was occupied by the children, whose bright faces were turned continually toward the trees. The exercises of the evening consisted of declamations, dialogues and carols by the children of the school, music by the choir, an an them and Adam's Christmas Song being sung, and some brief addresses. Eleven little boys and girls made pretty acrostic, each bearing a banner on which letter. The parents and friends of the children sat in the galleries and side seats, children sat in the galleries and side seats, enjoying the scene. The carola that the school sang were "O, Soit and Bright was the starry Night," "Carol, Brothers, Carol," "Ring out, ye Bells," and "Soitly the Night is diseping." The exercises were in charse of the superliste dent of the school, John H. Hawkinson. The Rev. Dr. Hall was present, by invitation of the pastor, the key. E. A. Reed, and made a brief address. "Such a Sunday-school gathering as this," said he, "is a beautiful sight and should make us happy. The Sabbatic-school is a great family, and your pestor is at its head. We ought to be tankful because we have warm and pleasant bomes to which we can go on this cold and blustering night. Friends, too, are there to greet us. On the other hand, think of the poor homes on who are wandering about the streets in the greet us. On the other hand, think of the poor home-less ones who are wandering about the streets in the fierce, biting wind. Secondly, you should be thank-ful because you have kind and foring teachers, on week days as well as on Sindays, who are try-ing to make good and patrotic citizens of you. Again, we should be thankful that we have so grand a country, and by country 'I mean not New-York City or State, but the whole length and breath of our land You should try and do everything for the glery and im-provement of your country, and I stheerely hope that the Sunday-school will teach true, intelligent, enlight-ened patrotism. This patrotism should not be re-stricted to the Fourth of July, but should be feit at all times. You, boys and girls, must make this a God-fearing, holy land.

times. You, boys and girls, must make this a Godrearing, holy land.

"Another reason why we should be thankful is because
of our Christinnity. In it we learn of that great gift—
Christino God. Let us continue to look to this Book,
to sermons, hymns, prayers and the example of a holt,
to sermons, hymns, prayers and the example of a holt,
to sermons, hymns, prayers and the example of a holt,
to sermons, hymns, prayers and the sample of the thinkindness we can show it by singing, as the viris do. Teil the
world you are bappy by singing on the street, in the Sabbash-school, and in fact, everywhere. Above all, get a
maily harred of everything that is bad. When you do
this you show the world that you are seally grateful to God for his goodness to you. Come to church, for
I know you can understand the sermons and will profit
by them. Set the older once examples in singing and in
instening, and may the blessing of God rest upon you
and this church."

The Rev. Mr. Reed said a few words, thanking the
teachers and Dr. Hall for their efforts to make the
evening pleasants, and Raipn wells told the children a
Christmas story. The distribution of presents then took
place, and the exercises closed.

CHRISTMAS AT THE WILSON MISSION.

The pupils of the Wilson Industrial School were made glad yesterday by the recurrence of the auunal Christmas Festival, at No. 125 St. Mark's-place. The school parlor was filled with friends of the institution. Large tables were lacen with useful gifts and toys, and in an adjoining room steed a Christmas tree, whose green branches were brilliant with many-colored toys and dolls. The enildren were gathered in the upper reci ation rooms, from which they descended by classes to the parlor. There each little girl received the gifts intended for her, and kind hands tied around each little neck a warm muffler. Passing into the next

cach little neck a warm muffler. Passing into the hext room they gathered around the Christmas tree, from which other gifts were quickly cut. The children were much pleased with everything. Their eyes saone brightly with Joy and their chubby checks were all me with excitement. One little girl was crying as if heart was broken because her arms could not hold all her presents, some of which had dropped on the floor.

After the exercises two little German girls, fatherless slaters, sang together in the parlor charming childsones, and in reward were petted by the visitors who remained to listen. Miss Hunington, the author of the Kitchen Garden mstruction, is mairon, and Miss Kirkwood principal of the school, which numbers about 250 scholars. Nearly one-third of them are ordans. The school has been in existence a quarrer of a century, and although it owns the school building, is not each owed. It is dependent for support upon the voluntary gifts of its friends. A par or concert in all of the school and mission will be given at the residence of A. B. Ston. No. 13 East Thirty-sixth-st., on Saturday evening, January 11. Among those who will take part are kemenyi, the violanst, and the members of the English Glee Club.

AMUSEMENTS FOR THE DAY.

At the theatres and other places of amusement special attractions are offered. Both afternoon and evening performances will be given at the following theatres: At the San Francisco Minstrels an extra Matinée will be given. At the Broadway Macauley will Matinée will be given. At the Broadway Macauley will and the Park the "Babes" appear as" Uncle Dan'l"; and at the Park the appear as "Uncle Dan'l"; and at the Park the "Babes in the Woods." and "Good Little Fairy Birds." will be presented by the Colville Opera Buricsque Company. "Cinderella" will be performed at the Aquarum, "New-York and London "at Niblo's, "Ticket-of-Leave Man" at the Olympic, "Manhattan Beach," at Minnie Cummings's Drawing-Room theatre.

The regular evening performances only will be given at the following theatres: At the Fifth Avenue Theatre-Jefferson in "Rip Van Winkle"; at Booth's "Evangeline"; at the Lyceum "The Double Marriage"; at Scinway Hail, the oratoric of "The Life of Jesus, at Wallack's, "My Son," and at the Union Square, "A Banker's Daughter."

A HOLIDAY IN ROOSEVELT HOSPITAL. Roosevelt Hospital was brilliant with light last night at the Christmas Eve ociciration. All the wards were lighted as an early hour, and at 7 o'clock the was illuminated. During the day the patients and nurses had been furnished with evergreeus, and the occupants of each ward strove to out-do the and the occupants of each ward strove to out-do the others in the work of decoration, and the general effect was very beautiful. At night-fail the friends of the institution elected in each ward a tail. Caristimas tree and attached to the branches of the trees a gift for every patient and nurse in the abspital. The gifts will be distributed to-day. Last night, from their clean white beds, the patients were gazing admiringly at the trees and the other Christimas decorations of the rooms. The and the other Christinas decorations of the rooms. Jee chapel was also ornamented with evergreen, and a re-ligious service was gold there carring the evening by the Rev. Alexander R. Thompson, of Brooklyn, chaplain of the institution. All the convalencent patients were pres-ent and also many charitable persons interested in the work of the hospital.

OBSERVANCES AROUND THE CITY.

There will be nothing striking or unusual in the observance of Curistmas Day in Brooklyn. In s large number of the churches services appropriate to the event which the day commemorates will be held there will be an abundance of decorations, and special musical programmes have been provided. In some churches Christmas services took place on Sunday. Col ections will be taken to-day at all the services in the Roman Catholic churches for the benefit of the four orphan asylums of that Church in Brooklyn. The public offices, courts, etc., will be closed. In the charitable in stitutions, both public and private, the day will be ap. propriately observed, and the fattened turkey and tooth some plum pudding will furnish forth a feast such as comes to their inmates only once or twice a year. In comes to their limates only once or twice a year. In the county institutions at Flatbush, however, no special preparations have been made for to-day, but the county has been called upon to furnish several thousand pounds of turkey and chicken for the New Year's dinner.

The day promises to be more generally observed in Newark than for several years. Business has generally improved during the last few mouths, and the boilday trade has been unusually brisk. At the County Insane Asylum, Soidi-ra' Home, Almshouse, orphan asylums, and other charitable institutions, extra dinners will be given to the inmates, and in the orphan asylums Christians trees loaded with good things will gladden the hearts of the little ones. The chames of St. Patrick's Cathedral and St. John's Roman Catholic Cuurch will ring early tots morning, to usker in the day. Bishop Corrigan decided to omit this year both the midnight mass and the chimes. All the Episcopal and Catholic charches, and many of other denominations have been tastefully decorated and the services will be appropriate to the day. The musical exercises will be unusually fine. In several of the Episcopal churches there were midnight services with the Holy Communion last night. All the places of annaembat will be open again to-night.

AN APPEAL FOR TEMPERANCE. The Board of Managers of the National Temperance Society, at a meeting held at No. 58 Reade. at vesterday afternoon, adopted the following resolu-

Resolved. That we carnestly exhort all who dispense hospitality during the holiday season to proffer no intexacting beverages, and we entreat all to abstant from their use; and we also request Christian ministers physicians and journalists to second as widely as possiphysicians and bie this appeal.

## NAVY INTELLIGENCE.

Washington, Dec. 23 .- The Marion was at Funchal, Madeira, on the 30th of November, en route to New-York. The Vandalia was at Teneriffe, Canary Islands, on the 25th of November, and intended to leave as soon as the weather permitted for Boston-The health of the officers and crew is reported as good The Superintendent of the Naval Academy has decided The Superintendent of the Naval Academy mas decided not to grant leave of absence to any of the cadets during the anoldays. He is constrained to do this as he could not extend a privilege to one and refuse it to otherseven for two days—and to grant a general leave would seriously interfere with their preparation for the February examination, on which their future standing depends. Commander William T. Simpson has been delached from duty at the Naval Academy and blaced on waiting orders. Masters Alphonso H. Cobb and Gustavus C. Hanus are detached from the coast survey steamer Silliman and placed on waiting orders.

FIXING UP THE NEW CAPITOL. LLBANY, Dec. 24 .- Work on the Legislative chambers in the new Capitol is being pressed forward. Painters and carpenters will work to-morrow, as also gas-fitters from New-York. The arrangements for the reception at the new Capitol on the night of Jan

debtors in Ludlow Street Jail will be fed to-day at the uary 7 are nearly perfected. It is expected there will be a very large attendance of invited guests.

WHERE IT COMES FROM AND HOW IT IS BROUGHT HERE. MARK CARR'S LUCKY SPECULATION IN CONIFERS-CONCERNING CLUB MOSS AND SOME OTHER PRO-

CHRISTMAS GREEN.

DUCTIONS OF MONMOUTH COUNTY, N. J. Twenty-seven years ago a jolly woodman named Mark Carr, who was whistling away a pappy life on the flanks of the Catakilla, conceived the idea that New-York needed some Christmas trees. Full of faith, he cut down a couple of sied loads of thrifty young firs and spruces, drew them down to the river with his oxen, and set out for the metropolis on a brand new business adventure. He se up his stock of holiday novelties on the corner of Vesey and Greenwich-ste., and disn't allow himself to be dis couraged by the fact that he was compelled to pay a silver dollar for the privilege of occupying a strip or th sidewalk with his wares. He quickly buyers at remunerative prices, and being convivially inclined, he treated himself to a protracted season of enjoyment in the city, and went home not much richer, but with the proud consciousness that his genius had established a new industry on a prosperous easts. The next year he brought more trees. His neighbors presently centured one by one to invest their capital hopefully in the enterprise. Soon the trees be gan to come in from more distant regions as the annual holiday demand incressed, and to-day there is a dealer from Maine selling trees at wholesale on one of the North River piers, who has paid \$100 for the right to sell on Carr's old corner. Of tate years the market here has taken trees by the hundred thousand, and Maine has sent her evergreens in great quantities as far south as Philadelphia and Baltimore. For a long time the industry could find no footing in Paritan New-England, where Christmas was considered a soul destroying device of the Pope and the devil; but now Bosion votes for Builer, elects a Democratic Mayor and boys as many Christmas trees in proportion to her inhabitants as any of her sintu sisters. Until Mr. Le Duc's National Forester is created and invested with authority to make an official guess at the statistics, it will never be known how many hundred acres are accusity out over throughout the country to supply parlors and Sunday-schools and sumple-rooms and butcher-shops with this Christmustide necessity.

It is a ways difficult to make an accurate estimate of the number in the market here. The surewd venders

are liable to und resumate the amount they have on hand, and almost invariably prophecy a tree famine to the buyers who are hagging for low prices, so that the announcement of a short supply of trees has come to be as regular as the annual faiture of the peach crop. But after ail, it is plain that this business, like all others, has been somewhat paralyzed by the hard times, and capital invests itself more cautiously now in evergreen ventures than it did in the flush hold days gone by. There have been fower trees in the mar-ket this year, and they have been smaller than they were last year, and they have brought low prices. About 200 cords have come from Mains by rail, the companies offering better rites then the Portland skippers who formerly carried them were willing to give. Four brothers from this State have sold something like 40,000 trees, and perhaps there have not been 60,000 trees in the market from that State altogether. Hardly as many more have been brought from Greene and Ulster Counties of the State, and these, with a few car-loads from Penusylvania and elsewhere, would make less than 125,000 all told. Prices have ranged from 50 cents to \$1 "a bunch," wholesale; a bunch being it trifle more ematte and unrestrained unit of measurement than the silver deliar of our fathers, the number of trees in this unit varying from two to a dozen, as they range from 10 feet in length to 4 feet. Larger trees are sold singly, and some choice specimens, 31 feet high, are worth from \$8 to \$12. The stock costs little as it stands, but the expense of reparation for the market makes these prices very low. in the first place, reputable dealers are careful in their selection, choosing only stocky and symmetrical trees, wite short annual growth and a complete whorl of limbs at every joint where the "leader" for the year begins. Then come the cutting and strapping down of the limbs, and collecting and bunching and tying and carrying to freight depot, and the transportation to and across the city to the place of sale. A preliminary trip to the city is also necessary to engage a position on the street or dock, and the rent for this varies from \$10 to \$75. Then come the night-waterman and tips (is is whispered), to har-ber-masters and police-sergeants, so that a dealer who invests \$1,000 often resizes little for his labor. which extends through three solid months. Spruce and fir are the only varieties of conifers used as Christmas trees, although the Irish purchase boughs of hemlock in considerable quantities, and with a reculess defiance of the

conventionalities of botany, call them paim branches.

It is greenery of quite another quality with which the

steamer Matteawan, from Keyport, has been load-d

every morning for a fortnight. There is a tradition

that formerly the raw material for general church trimming was alone available. In those days young men and maidens were found willing to neglect all secular matters and devote themselves for days together to the work of fashioning wr aths and festoons, and traces of this plous zeal are But now 150,000 yards of "rope-stuff," ready made for city consumption, can be found on the deck of the Matteawan any day, with hearts and crosses and crowns and wreaths and stars by the thousand dozen These huge colls of greenery are made of miniature trees of ground pine (Lycopodium dendroidium) tied to-gether, or of another kind of club moss (L. complanatum) which resembles a long trailing vine. The best quality of this rope has been selling for \$20 a thousand yards, and much of it for I cent a yard. The wreaths and other "designs" are made mostly of broad-leaved evergreens, like holly, rhododendron, kalmia and boxwood, although tufts of pine needles hemiock and cedar twigs and mosses, green and gray. are used, while the shining green is relieved by red ber ries of holly and the scarlet and orange pods of bittersweet (celastrus scandens.) Small bunches of evergreens, like randodenstron and holly, with tough and persistent leaves, are also brought on this boat in immense quantities. It is only a few years since a New-Jersey market woman pirked a sheet full of ground pine, tied the corners together, brought it with her "truck" to the city and sold it in the market for 50 cents. And this was the beginning of the very considerable business which now employs hundreds of people in New-Jersey for several months in each year. It is worth noting that the great bulk of this manufactured apply comes from Monmouth County, notwithstanding the fact that the more important evergreens used have been almost exterminated there. During the Automa months immense quantities of ground pine and "running vine" are imported from Pennsylvania, New-England, and even from the Western States, by Jerseymen, to be made up and sold. And yet, greens, like randodenaron and holly, with tough and reonal pine and raming vine are imported from reensylvania, New-England, and even from the Western States, by Jerseymen, to be made up and sold. And yet, notwith-tanding this drawbsek, and in spite of the low prices (wreaths and the like which once sold for from 10 to 20 cents each, now bringing from 10 to 50 cents per dozen), this trade is the source of a large revenue to the county. There is some feeble competition from Long Island, but the Jersey people have become so skilful in manufacture and tanhiar with the ways and wants of the market that they are practically the decerators of the city, so far as it is decorated with "Christmas green." In short, the business has come to be recognized so universally as Monmouth's own, that it can be safely set down, along with Joel Parker and the battle monument, as one of the permanent and peculiar assets of the county.

NONSENSE FROM PARIS PAPERS.

Figaro gives the version of the attempt to assassinate the King of Italy which will probably be given in the socialistic histories of the future: " A crowd was promenading quietly in the streets of Naples when a certain King, Humbert L., penetrated violently into it in a carriage, and, in a fit of criminal fury, seeing an in-offensive citizen, Passavanti, drew his sword and made a blow at him, which the unhappy man had scarcely time to parry with a knife which he had fortunately had the precaution to buy only the day before."

A lady who is no longer in the first blush of youth is summoned as a witness in some suit. The Judge : How old are you, madam ?" She (hesitatingly) "Thirty-nine." The Judge (in the most benevolent to the first having contemplated her an instant): "Thirty-nine! Come, madam, have courage! Go on, and finish it!"

"Well, dear, what did you learn at school this week ?" "Oh! mamms, darling, such stupid things that I never want to think of them again!"

Opinion of a restaurant-keeper on preserving the buildings of the Exposition: "Oh! blow the buildings! What they ought to keep is the visitors." "Hi! Cabby," where in the world are you

driving to ! "Exposition." "But, you concentrated idiot, don't you know it's closed !" "So much the worse! One can't change his habits in a day!" In the midst of a quarrel-"I don't know what keeps me from breaking your head?" "Well, I

know what keeps me from breaking yours. I'm a mem-ber of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals!" M. A- has been rudely guilty of a momentary forgetfulness of Mme. B.—, in whose boudoir he is sitting: "Come, do you want me to make myapologies with my head bowed in the dust?" Mine B—— (sourty): "In the dust? That's sweetly complimentary to my housekeeping!"

THE FASHIONS.

HOLIDAY GOODS AND TREASURES. NEW COSTUMES FOR DINNER, RECEPTION, BALLS AND EVENING WEAR-WHAT SANTA CLAUS ERINGS FOR CHRISIMAS-THOUSANDS OF DOLLS, TOYS, BRIC-A-BRAC, POTTERY, CUT GLASS, SIL-VER AND GOLD.

Just now there are no edicts from Queen

smon, except in the way of bail, evening, reception

and other dresses sultable for festive occasions, and these come continually—each more beautiful, more graceful in its conception than the tollets of past seasons. Almost every day seems to bring a new and charming shade, the adoption of which is by no means impeded by the certainty of its short-lived popularity. Among some models of the almost indescribable inventions of French artistes is a ball dress of close princesse shape of palest blue. Two puffings and a wide pleating extend around the edge of the train. A drapery of white satin is laid in folds diagonally around the skirt, sweeping gracefully over the train; from the hips a wide folded sash of white embossed velvet extends looped twice with long-looped bows, ending in a wide white silk fringe. This eash is eaught in two places with a bouquet. The coreage is cut very décolleté; the rimming is a frince of hily-of-the-valley and grasses which also forms the semblance of a sleeve with a headng of variegated roses. The same trimming edges the white satin drapery. The kid gloves accompanying this dress reach nearly to the elbow, and are buttoned by ten buttons, and are finished at the top by a fine pleating of Val neiennes lace. A reception dress for New Year's Day is a garnet velvet and satin trimmed with white Breton lace. The train is surrounded by a satin puff-d flounce. The panier overskirt represents a wrinkled apron front made quite long and curving into panels at the sides, which are hidden by the train. The vest is composed of alternate satin puffings and frillings of lace, and a jubot of lace extends down from the neck. Three scalloped pieces of velvet heading and a puffing of satin are placed on one side, the upper one forming a pocket; a rion passementerie of pearls and white silk edges the overskirt. The corsare is cut square, and is filled in with a pleating of satin; the velvet sleeves are pen to the cibow, showing an undercoat sleeve of satin. Lace, velvet and satin bows are placed on the shoulders and waist. An evening dress of flesh-colored silk has a train formed of wide pleatings extending around the skirt. Over it falls a tablier of mother-of-pearl satin, having a slivery sulmmer, edged with soft, yellowish, costly lace; then two rows follow of satiu, seal ored and bound with silk, another fall of lace and three curving folds of silk reaching to the bottom of the skirt. The bouffant back has a continuation of folds of satin reaching to the top of the satin train. edged with lace and nearly covering the silk skirt; at each side there are long-looped tows of green garnet, duck's-breast blue, and rose satin ribbon. The long round basque has the side forms made of satin, and the back also of pleated satin in V shape. There are a satin vest and elbow sleeves of silk finished with Breton lace frills and ribbon loops. A dinner dress has the front made of full black sadin pufflings. The panier overskirt black velvet is crossed below the edge of the basque and edged with three amber satin pipings and black Spanish lace. The velvet train is attached to the side of the panier with wide pleatings of amber satin inserted at regular intervals. The black velvet basque has a vest of amber satin made long and pointed, and flaished with loops of the satin; the sleeves of amber satin have deep untlet cuffs of black velvet finished to match the edge of the overskirt. A second dluner dress model has a merb skirt of black satin laid in wide pleats; the black satin overskirt is parted in front after the fashion of curiain drapery, cut square at the top, and descends with grace; ui broad folds to the back, forming the train. The princesse front of cherry velvet has a basque of black satin showing the cherry front, meeting at the waist ith a band and loops of cherry velvet and black lace, and porting again for the trimming of three flounces of wide black falling from the black satin drapery, where it

and parting again for the trimming of three flounces of wide black falling from the black satin drapery, where it parts. The s every of cherry velvet have wide cums of black satin, elaborate with lace, pipings and bows.

For young ladies there is nothing more beautiful than a mixture of tuile and silk. A charming evening dress is made of pale pink tuile and waite watered silk. The tuile skirt has a deep related flounce at the bottom, and is covered with pullings, which harrow toward the wast. Pyramids of plaques of silk, embroidered in silver and edged with a frill of white face, are placed u on the flounce about tweive inches ap rt. A long basque of the flounce about tweive inches ap rt. A long basque of the flounce about tweive inches ap rt. A long basque of the flounce about tweive inches ap rt. A long basque of the turned-back collar of delicate rose voivet, softened by frits of lace inside. A narrow band of this velvet is placed round the basque, outlined by a harrow embroidery of silver thread. The chlow seeves have frills of lace, bands of velvet and embroidery. The buttons are plink coral set in silver. Dresses of white bardey over silk are extremely charming and youthful, and with tuis fabric is revived the round Josephine waist, with short sievers made in purils. The soft graceful puffs of the back drapery show an exquisite effect when separated by long gailands of roses, white and purple sprays of line and traiting arbitus, or the feathery-leafed maldon-hair fern and solden acada. Old gold and blue form a fashionatic combination. The delicate pink of the conch-shell and pale bine is another, with puffings of gause and clusters of white chrysauthemmus. Lemon, amber, canny color, old gold, and jonguil thits are very much used in contrast with blue, rose, black and violet. The too sudd-n contrast is avoided by the pleatings or rills of lace, gar ands of flowers or passementeries. M. my velves and heavy sliks have additional sleeves made of white or black erep lisse. lace or tuile. Fine waite underessed white discresses and are recovered and pleatings of Va-lencience lace, cost \$15 a pair. Block kid gloves, by a sorange caprice, are trainined us the same manner, and worn with the most extravagant dresses on full dress oc-casions. Some coquetrish new things in the way of opera scarfs, attract attention. They are about three yards tone, made of Spanish or ductiess lace, and are

won highly over the head and around the throat. Endess quantities of Ereton lace are used upon full dress
todels.

From the little town of Sonneburg and on the borders
of the great Thuringian forest joily old Santa Claus
comes inden with dolls enough for each little mattlen in
New-York to have haif a dozen apiece; the magnifecent
ady doll who walks, talks, plays upon a piano, rides and
drives, with a Worth wardrobe and Saratoga trink to
keep it in; the wooden dolls with beautiful porcelain faces, the wax dolls, in fact
495 serts of dolls, each sort having six varieties. In
reality there exist 5,000 varieties, from peasant to
princess, in the manufacture of which are engaged not
only the modellers, wax-varininers, wig-makers, eyeplacers, etc., but hundreds of this children and arger
kirls to make boots, dresses, curl the hair, and do other
work far away in the little old village of Sonneburg,
whence most of the famous toys come—the scientific
and mechanical, kaleidoscopes, miniature planos, bugies,
drums, xylophones, metallophones, fire engines, and all
that can dollght the heart of the holeset of boys. There
are cows with real skins chewing the cut, cows that can
really be miked—the milk being poured in a hole in its
back; a gorgeous peacock that walks and stops to
sprendits tall; elephants with trunks that suck up water
and spirt is out again; Moses lying in the bultushes in
dangerous proximity to a walking bear, and a mewing
out that gazes in admiration at little chicks; jist escaped
from the skell. There are whole sets of dolls' jurniture

spreadits tail; elephants with trunks that suck up water and spirt it out again; Moses lying in the builtables in dangerous proximity to a walking bear, and a mewing eat that gazes in admiration at little chicks just escaped from the shell. There are whole sets of doils' unriture upholstered in sick, raw sick plush, and framed in rose-wood, black walnut or oak; wardrobes, writing desks filled with stationery for invitations to parties, weddings and 5 o'clock teas, decorated boxes with the inscription, "Les gants de ne a poupée," sponges, brushes, Turkish towels; beautin bassinettes for the baby doil that is never intended to grow up, eats, winks, opens its mouth to be fed, and cries "namma and papa." Among the meenanteal wonders is a Christmas tree that revolves to charming muse from an unseen box; other Christmas tree eastiff more attractive because Santa Chaus, clad in fur and covered with hoar roset, with a sace upon his back filled with all manner of appetizing sweets and toys, walks around the tree with joily red face and strong white teeth. All these delights and a thousand more are sure to make happy the little ones on Christmas over are legions of beautiful Oriental things, suggestive of those "far countries" which Lord Bateman "weat for to see," and a'so from Paris which are marvellousiy eneap. Silver-plated porcupines, in ended to bristie with tooth-picks, are ony \$1 apiece. A beautiful flower stand takes the shape of a snowy swan in white bisque, mounted on silver carved stems and wheels of frosted silver pend lilles. A silver Cupid holds the golden reus and gindes the swan over a plane surface highly burnished. A simbar style of satin lustre in silver has hos relief and curving lily stems of oxide truts held by a figure of Pan. An exquisite flower-service piece has a shallow bowl of frosted silver; a Greek nymph, festoons, bas reliefs and decarations of the standard are of gold and oxides. Odd pieces for gifts are made of humbered iron, in the shape of eardlesticks, library sets for stationery, brac

talence made by Swiss peasunts near the Italian border. This is limid with 1 welled medallions of chamel, in the shape of small baskets, blacques, jugs, bowls, vases. Pretty fluger bowls of fluest Bohemian glass in ruby, amber, the and water green come in the shape of a halr-opened bag; others are like a curving lily cup.

There is a great deal of attention shown to the grittering diamond cut-glass for table service, cut in innumerable facets; the iridescent glass-ware is used altogether for ornamental purposes, in separate pieces. To encourage industry, thimbles come to the form made of elegantity engraved gold; some have bands of Limoge enamed, others are set with diamonds. There are odor caskets of violet and sandal-wood inhaid with silver, gold and oxide. Other boxes of rare wood, decorated and inhaid with silver, are intended for cigars, and lined with metal, with a place for a damp sponge. There is space for fifty cigars. Similer cases, of silver, leather or ivory, are for cigars and cigarettes. There are beautiful triplicate mirrors of the most perfect glass, having backs of Japanese designs or of exquisitivity embroidered sizk. There are endless pretty tilings to charms and trinkets, fans of ostrich, peacock, and wild goose features, stars and jabots of lace, and the lassport ware of split rattan.

Messrs. A. T. Stewart & Co., Arnold & Constable, Tiffany & Co., H. O'Nell, Enrich & Co., W. Kinzey, R. Meares, and Johnson Brothers will please accept thanks for attention.

ONE OF THE POMMERANIA'S LOST PASSENGERS. The German Consulate-General, at No. 2 Bowling Green, has received the photograph of a body.

which was found near Hastings, England, and which is supposed to be that of one of the drowned passencers of the steam-hip Fommerants. The body is that of a woman forty or forty-three years of age, measures five feet seven inenes in height, and is stout. The hair is dark brown. She was dressed in a dark gray checkered peticest, brown woollen stockings, low shoes and a black cloth jacket trammed with fur. Two wedding rings were found on the body.

AMERICAN ARTISTS AT PARIS,

A FOREIGN CRITIC'S OPINION. PROMISE OF AN ART THAT WILL BE NATIONAL AND

" BICH IN LOCAL TRUTH." The Gazette des Beaux-Arts, published in Paris, the dest and most conservative of European journals devoted to the fine arts, in its monthly number for October, in an article by M. Paul Lefort, on the Foreign Schools of Painting represented in the Exposition, speaks thus of the works of American artists in the American Department:

In the United States at the present time, the city governments, private associations, and the departments of public education in the several States of the Union are rivalling one another in efforts to encourage and extend in the schools instruction in the arts of design, theoretical as well as practical. Museums are being es tablished, and every day they are enriched and made more complete by gitts and purchases. The success of al these praiseworthy efforts is witnessed to by a marked and regular progress in the arts. If we look no furthe than our own expositions we cannot fall to see that since the year 1855 both a taste for the arts and the practical cultivation of them have greatly increased in the New World. At our first Exposition there were bardly ten American painters represented. In 1867 there were perhaps forty, and to-day the catalogue of American art mentions the names of no less than eighty seven-painters, waser-colorists and engravers, whose united contribution amounts to 165 works. Among these are 127 pictures and tweaty-three water-colors and drawings. These figures are eloquent in themselves Born but yesterday, without a history, without a pass

it is nothing surprising that America has not as yet a National art, one in which the temperament, the charac ter, and the humor of the race, are, as it were, translated and compactly summed up. But it may be that the time is not far off when out of the present confused maxture of native originality and of traditions borrowed from the ancient and modern actionle of this old Europe of ours, there will spring an art of their own, rich in local truth and smacking of the soil. The active American sap mounts to-day and spreads through all the branches of the tree, and in the Exhibition in the Champs de Mars there is much more than a vague promise of We meet there the heralds, and even the first signs of a vigorous awakening close at hand.

Among the pictures exhibited we find a considerable number that have figured in our recent salons, the Funeral of a Mummy," for example, by Mr. Bridgman a pupil of Gérome, who is drawn to the old and myster ous Egypt, and who applies his skill both as archie elogist and colorist, to set before us the ceremonies and the rites of her religion. Another picture by the same artist, "Aliah! Allah!" represents two Mussulmans praying in a mosque of the most perfect Moorish archi

A whole colony of industrious American painters has planted itself in a corner of our rude Brittany, and labors there to depict the sustere landscape, or to fix upon the canvas the secluded and patriare, al manners of the people. Robert Wylie, the artist of the "Breton Fortune-telier," exhibited in the Salon of 1872, died in Brittany a year ago. He was wholly devoted to Breton subjects. The "Story-teller" (Conteur des legendes) his last work, was in the Salon of 1878 and we meet again in the American Depart the "Death of a Vendean Chief," one of his important pictures, strong in tone, but a little sumbre, owing to the artist's too much use of black Mr. Hovenden sends from Pontaven, in Finisterre, a "Breton Interior," a scene in the Chouan war, more picturesque than moving, and to which we prefer this other "Breton Interior" signed by Mr. Alden Weir: 4 woman sits spinning, and in the shade the husban gravely smokes his pipe. Here we have a composition aimost noif in its simplicity, but well painted, and showing observation. In the "Sabot-maker" of Mr. Edgar Ward, who exhibits also "A Fountain, Venice." color is clear but labored, heavy, and not without the

appearance of a certain dryness.

If there is some resemblance to Millet and to Jule Breton in the " Reapers Reposing," of Mr. Wyatt Eaton, whose other picture, " Reverse," a portrait no doubt, i free enough in execution, there is also a good deal of the school of Dusseldorf in the "Sheep-shearing in Bavaria," of Mr. Walter Shirlaw. If "Cerise," by Mr. Hamilton reminds us of Courbet, and this is no slighting compari on the " View of Venice," by Mr. Gedney Bunce, may with honor suggest the best lessons of the studio of Ziem. A " Page," by Mr. Shade, is a charming Italian or Soanish canvas, like the "Marguerite," by the same artist, by whom a small portrait, " My Visitor of Every Day," must not pass without notice; its execution is re-

markably distinguished and delicate. There are pienty of pictures remaining, portraits landscapes or compositions, which remind us of one or another of the schools and masters of to-day. For example, the "Oaks at Creedmoor," of Mr. Miller, and the "Paradise Valley," of Mr. Latirge, both of which are closely related, in execution and in feeling, to the English school; the " Land! Land!" of Mr. Henry Bacon, a pupil of Cabanel and of E. Frère; the "Portrait," by Cossatt, which belongs to our Impressionists emulating the powerful and contrasted tones of M. Michetti; a "View of St. Peter's Church, Rome," by Mr. Inness, half Impressionist, balf Italian; the "Cumman Sibyl" and the "Young Marsyas," of Mr. Vedder, who follows the English tradition of the Preraphaelites; finally a "New-England Landscape," by Mr. Wyant, who mingles with his studies after the old English masters, a little of the sentiment of Theodore Rousseau. But there is a group of American artists who already give evidence of the possession of more originality and independence, whether in the choice and composition of their subject or in the character and sentiment of their design and coloring. Of these Mr. Winslow Homer is one. His negro subjects, "The Visit to the Old Mistress" and "Sunday Morning in Virginia," are small pictures, a little sad and provincial in appearance, but expressive, simple-hearted, and with a true native savor. Some landscapes also of an absolute sincerity of observation recommend themselves to our attention. Such are the "Cedars" of Mr. Swain Gifford; "Mt. Renier," by Mr. Sanford R. Gifford; the "Forest" and the Spring" of Mr. Wm. T. Richards; the "Emigrant Wagons Crossing a Stream " of Mr. Colman : the "School House on a Hill" of Mr. Thompson. A "View it Duane-st., New-York." (Un coin de la rue de la Douane -Ed.), by Mr. Tiffany, with its little shops or booth built against the tailer houses of the color of chocolate their signs and their painted inscriptions, gives a perfeetly true impression of the locality. Mr. Quartley has painted a morning effect in New-York harbor, which is exquisite in its transparence and delicacy, and finally Dana, who also exhibits a very beautiful study of which he calls "Solitude" to a remarkable height o sentiment and poetry. Nothing could be more striking, nore threatening, more terrible than this sea, black tremendous, whose pillows as they climb and tumble on upon another, and open to the frightened eye the mys terious deep, are lighted by the moon.

TONNAGE OF THE CANALS.

AN INCREASE OVER LAST YEAR.

ALBANY, Dec. 23 .- The report of the Audior upon the tonnage of all the capals going both ways or the year from the opening to the closing of naviga tion, shows that the amount carried this year was 5,170. 22 tons, against 4,955,963 tons last year; an increas of 214,859 tons. The most important increase was in the following articles, which are given for both years:

	1877.	1878
Cheese	107	35
Whent	448,443	844.57
Rve	35,948	64.59
Onta	66.045	85,03
Corn	723,458	734.99
Apples	9,804	24,00
Hemp		1,31
Oil meal and cake	4,763	6,58
Pig iron	35.992	45.45
Domestic salt	. 116,340	133,78
Sugar	5,046	34.30
Molasses		8.67
Stone, lime and clay		207.6

	1877.	1578.
Pork,,,,,	6,018	2.78
Lard and tallow	5,089	31
Harley	132.453	89,50
Flax seed	3,410	55
Bar and pig lead	1,361	10
Bloom and bar iron	11 044	6,73
Railroad fron	10,341	8.37
Anthracite coal	1,015,239	681.40
Bituminous coal	257.642	207,31
Iron ore	250,573	210,06

THE SWEETS OF THE MORNING. -She (senti mental): "Oh, I call to:, quite toe exquisitely levely:
So delightful to see the little early birds! They seem
so happy!" He (hard-up): "Yes, with their bills all
over dew, too! Lively little beggars!"—¡Punch's Almanack. THE INDIAN PROBLEM.

MAJOR J. W. POWELL ON ETHNOLOGY. EXTRACT FROM HIS PAPER LAID BEFORE THE NA-TIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.

THE TRIBUNE recently published in full the report of the committee appointed by the National Academy of Sciences under act of Congress to myestigate the subject of scientific surveys of the public domain. By request of Professor O. C. Marsh, chair. man of that committee, Major J. W. Powell, the geologist in charge of the geological and geographi cal survey of the Rocky Mountain region, prepared an exhaustive paper upon the subject for the consideration of the committee. That part of the paper which refers to ethnology in its relation to the Indian question is given below.

THE VALUE OF ETHNOLOGIC RESEARCH. There are reasons why ethnologic reearches or investigations relating to the North American Indians should be fostered by the General Govern nent. The work is of great magnitude; more than 400 anchages belonging to about sixty different stocks havng been found within the territory of the United States, Little of value can be accomplished in making investiga-tions to other branches of the field without a thorough knowledge of the languages. Their sociology, myth ology, arts, etc., are not properly known until the people themselves are understood, with their own conceptions, pinions and motives. The subjects of study are remote from the centres of civilization and culture, and thus inaccessible to the great body of American scholars. The field of research is speedily narrowing because of the rapid change in the Indian population n. w in progress. Habits, customs and opinions are fading away; even languages are disappearing, and in a very few years it will be impossible to study our North American Indians in their primitive condition except from recorded history. For this reason ethnologic studies in America should be pushed with the utmost vigor.

But there are other cogent reasons leading to the same onclusion. In the whole area of the United States, not including Alaska, there is not an important valley unne cupled by white men. The rapid spread of civilization nce 1849 has placed the white man and the Indian in direct conflict throughout the whole area, and the "In dian problem" is thus forced upon us, and it must be solved wisely or unwisely. Many of the difficulties are suberect and cannot be avoided, but an equal number are unnecessary and are caused by the lack of our knowl edge relating to the Indians themselves. Savagery is not inchoate civilization; it is a distinct status of society with its own institutions, customs, philosophy and religon; and all these must necessarily be overthrown be fore new institutions, customs, philosophy and religion can be introduced. The failure to recognize this fact has wrought inconceivable mischief in our management of the Indians. For the proper elucidation of this state ment a volume is n cessary, but I shall have to content

nown; ornaments and clothing only were recognized

myself with some brief illustrations. Among all the North American Indians, when in a primitive condition, personal property was almost un-

as the property of the individual, and these only to a timited extent. The right to the soil as landed property, the right to the products of the chase, etc., etc., was in berent in the gens, or clan, a body of consanguini-a group of relatives, in some cases, on the male side; in others, on the female. Inheritance was never to the children of the deceased, but always to the gens. No other crime was so great, no other vice so abhorrent, as he attempt of an individual to use for himself that which belonged to his gens in common ; hence the per onal rights to property recognized in civilization are in tensely obnoxious to the Indian; he looks upon our whole system of property rights as an enormous evil and an unpardonable sin, for which the gods will eventually punish the wicked and blasphemous white man. From hese opinions, inherent alike in their social institutions and religion, arises the difficulty which the Government has always met in obtaining the consent of the Indians to the distribution of lands among them in severalty Tribes have been willing to receive lands and distribute them themselves among their gens. Among those indians who have been longest in confact with the white man—as the tribes in the Indian Territory and Minnesota—much property has been accumulated, and with the increase of their wealth the question of inheritance and individual ownership has at last spontaneously spring up, and at the present time these tribes are intensely agitated on the subject; the parties holding radical sentiments are rapidly increasing, and it is probable that soon among these tribes the customs of civilization in this respect will be adopted. Among all other tribes the ancient customs are still adhered to will tensely. In this matter, and many others of a similar character relating to their customs and belief, we must character relating to their customs and belief, we must character relating to their customs and belief, we must character relating to their customs and belief, we must character relating to their customs and belief, we must characte a tribes the incontact to effect a change, or we must reduce him to abject slavery. The attempt to transform a savage into a civilized man by a law, a policy, an administration, through a great conversion, "as in the twinking of an eye," or in months, or in a few years, is an imposs bility cuently appreciared by setentific ethnologists who understand the institutions and secial condition of the Indians. This great fact has not in general been properly recognized in the administration of Indian affairs. A few of the wiser missionaries and a few officers of the Indian Bureau have recognized some of the more important facts, but in general tace have been gnored.

Again, we nave usually attempted to treat with tribethrough their chiefs as if they wielded absolute power; but an Indian tribe is a pure democracy; the chief taincy is not hereditary, and the colef is but the represonative, the especial condition then find an advention of the front many their relations we have indicted upon the indians fribes have been willing to receive lands and distribute them themselves among their gens. Among those Inhave made and the wrongs we have influeted upon the lindians because of a fadure to recognize this fact have seen cruel and inextusable except on the ground of our isnorance. Within the United States there are about sixly radically desinct stocks of Indians. The alsotory of the country shows that no coalition between ribes of different stocks has ever been successful; a few have been attempted, but these have been failures. A knowledge of this fact, and the further knowledge of the extent of the several stocks as they can be classed by linguistic affinities, would be of great value in our administration of Indian affairs. In the late Nez Percé war, much fear was entertained leet the Shoshones and Putes of Unsh and Nevada would join with the Nez Percés in their revolt; and the officers of the Army, as well as those of the Indian Office, were exceedingly anxious in regard to this matter; and the papers were filled with rumors that such a coalition and becumade; the result proved, what had been considerily predicted, that no such alimine could be formed, and the Shoshones and Pintes were enlisted to fight against the Nez Percés.

I might continue to illustrate the subject in many ways did time permit, but the foregoing must suffice. I think it will be apparent from what I have said that a thorough investigation of North American ethnology would be of great value in our Indian Office. The reasons which I have briefly set forth as influencing two opinion that the General Government should provide for researches in this field have for many years, to a greater or less extent, been recognized by Congress. Twice in the history of legislation in this country we flut that provision has been under by appropriations for this work, and it has been discontinues each time only because the character of the researches made falled to obtain the confidence and respect alike of statesmen and scientiss. I therefore submit the opinion to the committee that it would be wise to recommend to Congress the continuation of research in this

or all other agencies. DULL TRADE ON THE CUMBERLAND.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 24 .- A Nashville, Tenn., correspondent states that the remarkable falling off in merce of the Cumberland River this season is attracting considerable attention. Last season the value of the produce shipped aggregated \$8,000,000. Five thousand hogsheads of tobacco alone were brought down from the Upper Camberland, against 3,000 dis year. The shipments on the Lower Cumberland will not reach \$1,000,000, including merchandise of every description. The number of steamers running has been reduced one-half. The lack of trade is accounted for by the extreme low prices at which products of all kinds are now urling, the farmers generally holding for better prices. The Government improvements in the Upper Cumberland will emble steamers to run between Nashville and Point Isabel five months in the year. The Cumberland River will be a valuable adjunct to the Cheinnati Southers Railroad, which crosses the river at the bead of steamboat navigation. value of the produce shipped aggregated \$8,000,000.

APPEAL IN BEHALF OF ST. LUKE'S HOSPITAL On Sunday next a collection will be taken up in all of the Protestant Episcopal churches of this city to aid in providing for the sick poor who apply to St. Luke's Hospital for assistance. During the past year 1,069 patients have been treated at this hospital, at an average cost for each of \$48 54. Nearly 80 per cent of those treated the last year were entirely supported by the nospital. The meome from the endow-ment fund being only sufficient to meet part of the expenses, the managers urge generous yearly contribu-tions to carry on the work. The total number of patients received since the hospital was opened, to October 18, was 14,685. Of this number 6,170 were Episcopalians; Roman Catholics, 3,464; Protestants of no special de-nomination, 1,258; Presbyterians, 1,147; Lutherans, 844; Methodists, 715; Baptists, 349; Reformed Dutch, 1,51; and 587 of various other denominations.

PASSENGERS TO HAVRE. The following cabin passengers will sail

for Havre to-day on the steamship France, of the French Line:

FOR HAVRE—By Sicamship France.—C. Ferrori. P. Sa-via S. Massara, T. Andicossi, G. B. Imberte, C. Jerois J. Van Ryawyck, Edward Ivers, Eugene Blubdorn, Miss I. Newman, Mrs. N. Hicks, Miss Hicks, Mrs. E. Geisman and nutse.

LIQUOR DEALERS ARRESTING THEIR ACCUSERS. Many liquor dealers of Passaic City, N. J., were arrested two months ago upon a charge of sel ins liquor upou Sundays, the complaints being made by Mt. Greenwood, a resident of the city. Yesterday a new case was up for trad, when the two detectives, william II. House and mass S. Mecker were arrested upon a charge of conspiracy. They were released on ball.